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5/19/03

Patent Application
Attorney Docket No. PC10960AGPR

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By

Janice Denison
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Janice Denison

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: **Mark David Fidock.**

Examiner: **Li, Ruixiang**

APPLICATION NO.: **10/023,586**

FILING DATE: **12/18/2001**

: Group Art Unit: **1646**

TITLE: **NOVEL POLYPEPTIDE**

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the Office Action mailed February 7, 2003, Applicants answer as follows.

Remarks

Applicants hereby elect Group I (claims 1-8 and 10) with traverse. It is respectfully submitted that it would not be an undue burden on the Examiner to search all of the claims of this application at once. The sequences involved in the present claims are each directed to the nucleotide or polypeptide sequence of the GPCR PFI-020 or the highly homologous GPCR PFI-020'. As such, all the pending claims are highly related, and it will be necessary for the Examiner to search for any mention in the literature of this gene, it's protein, or uses thereof, in order to properly search any of the pending claims. Since the same thorough search will be required for each individual claim, there is no undue burden to search all of the claims simultaneously.

Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that at least the claims of Groups I and II should be recombined, as it clearly will be necessary to search using all of the polypeptide and polynucleotide sequences no matter which group is elected. In other words, in order to perform a thorough search of the polynucleotide claims of elected Group I, the Examiner will want to perform a search using the polypeptide sequences covered by the claims of Group II anyway. As such, no duplication of effort will be required.

In response to the requirement to elect a species, Applicants hereby elect SEQ ID NO:1 with traverse. Applicants fail to see the purpose of this election, given that a proper search of the claims will require the use of all four sequences in the search process no matter what species is elected.

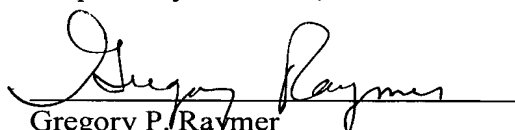
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-1445.

A Notice of Allowance is courteously solicited.

Date:

5/7/03

Respectfully submitted,



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